

WEDSDAY, JULY 3

OBITUARY

MARY ROBBINS KASSON.

—Word has just been received here of the sudden death of Mrs. Thomas C. Kellogg, who will be remembered by the few old settlers now residing in Grinnell. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg came here in 1856. When her husband enlisted in Co. E 4th Iowa cavalry and went to the front, Mrs. Kellogg with their twin sons born in 1858, returned to Hadley, Mass., their former home and they have resided there ever since. Mr. Kellogg died in 1900, just three weeks before his only brother, R. M. Kellogg passed away. Mrs. Kellogg was a most amiable, christian woman, a devoted wife and mother, a kind neighbor and friend. At the funeral service, Rev. J. J. Adkins, I. G. 1885, of Belchertown, Mass., whose wife is a relative, read "Folded Hands" by Margaret Sangster and she was borne to her final resting place by her relatives. *

The remains of Mrs. Mary S. Kason, who died from the weaknesses of old age at Des Moines, were interred by the side of her husband in Hazelwood cemetery Thursday morning, which would have been her eighty ninth birthday. Funeral services had been conducted at the home of her son, L. J. Kason, at Des Moines the previous afternoon and but brief services were held at the grave, conducted by Prof. L. F. Parker. Old friends of the family acted as pallbearers. L. J. Kason and daughter and Rev. and Mrs. John Casady of Delwin, the latter being a daughter of the deceased, accompanied the remains here.

In the passing of Mrs. Kason there is lost to this life a really remarkable woman. Gifted with a fine personal appearance and high intellectual charms she is remembered by those who knew her here as a woman of strength and great force of character. At the same time she was endowed with a wealth of tender, womanly sweetness. Age brought only added beauties. She was a deep student and seemed to retain her keen faculties to the end.

ing and almost romantic one.

Mary Robbins Kason was born at Norfolk, Conn., July 25, 1818, the eldest of seven children. Her mother's name was Fannie Osborne, and her uncle, Judge Osborne, was a professor of law at Yale. Later the family moved to Syracuse, N. Y., where she was educated at Miss Pliman's school at Cananogue.

In 1840 she was united in marriage to Rev. James H. Kason, the young couple going immediately as home missionaries to what was then the wilds of Wisconsin. Later the young minister had a pastorate at Baraboo, but his health failing him, came to Almor, Delaware county, Iowa, to engage in farming. In 1865 they moved near Grinnell to the farm that is now the old homestead and where Mr. Kason died in 1872. A few years later their son, Joseph died, and Mrs. Kason came to Des Moines to make her home with her son, Le Baron.

Through she was a descendant direct of Governor Bradford and her grandfather, Robbins, served seven years in the revolution, she did not belong to the D. A. R. and kindred institutions for which she was eminently eligible. She preferred the quiet of study and intercourse with a few chosen friends.

descended from the old Le Baron family of Plymouth. The romance in America is as follows: The English, then at war with the French captured a French privateer off the coast near Plymouth, and on taking the captives through the town allowed the young surgeon to stop and set a broken leg for a Plymouth woman who had fallen on the street. He saved the member from amputation, and on the solicitations of the citizens was freed by the English and remained there to practice. He never told his true name, but married a Plymouth girl and was always called "Le Baron." The name has come down in the family. Jane Austin, the gentle English novelist, wrote the adventures of the Le Barons with great fidelity to truth into two of her romances—"A Nameless Nobleman" and "The Doctor and His Daughters." The original Le Baron's granddaughter became the grandmother of Mrs. Kason.

Her father's brother, Francis Robbins, was one of the seven Williams college young men who held the famous "haystack prayer meeting" at which was originated the American Board of Congregational Foreign Missions, and in memory of which the "Haystack Monument" was erected in 1806. Many connections of her family were writers, and she herself was known as a writer of graceful verses on occasion, published during her youth and all along her life till the last few years.

At the time of her death she still held to her membership of forty years at the Grinnell Congregational church and corresponded with many friends of her girlhood and early married life. Her companionship will be keenly missed by her family and its friends.